

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/689,076

Examiner

Michael Y Won

Applicant(s)

KRAFT ET AL.

Art Unit

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Appeal Brief filed October 15, 2004 and the Interview conducted on December 7, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2 and 4-20 (herein re-number 1-19).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12 October 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date attached.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

HOSAIN ALAM

PERMISSORY PATENT EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. In light of the arguments presented in the Appeal Brief filed October 15, 2004, the examiner agreed to the arguments that prior art of record did not successfully teach the claimed invention. Therefore, another search was performed resulting in a new and relevant prior art, Segal et al. (US 6,799,199 B1), which was not available during the time of the first action. As a result of the newly found art and in an attempt to expedite the case, an interview was concluded on December 7, 2004.

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Leonard T. Guzman (Reg. No. 46,308) on December 7, 2004.

3. The application has been amended as follows (claim 3 has been cancelled and claims 1, 18, 19, and 20 have been amended):

1. (currently amended) A method of monitoring real-time communication on a computer network between at least two client computers connected by the network comprising:

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providing a database of keywords, each of said keywords linked to a predefined rating;

monitoring real-time communication on a computer network between at least two client computers connected by the network;

detecting said keywords in the real-time communication; [and]

determining for the real-time communication a rating level based upon the predefined rating of said keywords;

connecting at least one additional client computer to the network without establishing real-time communication with said at least two client computers, wherein the rating level of the real time communication is conveyed to the at least one additional client computer; and

connecting the at least one additional client computer to the real-time communication based upon the rating level, wherein the at least one additional client computer receives the real time communication.

3. (cancelled)

18. (currently amended) A system for monitoring real-time communication on a computer network between at least two client computers connected by the network comprising:

a database of keywords, each of said keywords linked to a predefined rating;

means for monitoring real-time communication on [a] the computer network between the at least two client computers connected by the network;

means for detecting said keywords in the real-time communication; [and]

means for determining for the real-time communication a rating level based upon the predefined rating of said keywords;

means for connecting a subsequent client computer to the network without establishing real-time communication with the at least two client computers; and

means for connecting the subsequent client computer to the real-time communication based upon the rating level.

19. (currently amended) A computer program product for monitoring real-time communication on a computer network between at least two client computers connected by the network comprising:

a database of keywords, each of said keywords linked to a predefined rating;

program code means for monitoring real-time communication on [a] the computer network between the at least two client computers connected by the network;

program code means for detecting said keywords in the real-time communication; [and]

program code means for determining for the real-time communication a rating level based upon the predefined rating of said keywords;

program code means for connecting a subsequent client computer to the network without establishing real-time communication with the at least two client computers; and

program code means for connecting the subsequent client computer to the real-time communication based upon the rating level.

20. (currently amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for monitoring real-time communication on a computer network between at least two client computers connected by the network using a database of keywords, each of said keywords linked to a predefined rating, the method comprising:

monitoring real-time communication on [a] the computer network between the at least two client computers connected by the network;

detecting said keywords in the real-time communication; [and]

determining for the real-time communication a rating level based upon the predefined rating of said keywords;

connecting a subsequent client computer to the network without establishing real-time communication with the at least two client computers; and

connecting the subsequent client computer to the real-time communication based upon the rating level.

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4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Prior art of record does not explicitly disclose, teach, or suggest "connecting a subsequent client computer to the network without establishing real-time communication with the at least two client computers; and connecting the subsequent client computer to the real-time communication based upon the rating level" as recited in independent claims 1 and 17-20.

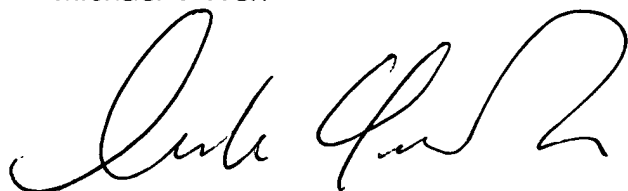
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Y Won whose telephone number is 571-272-3993. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th: 7AM-5PM.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain T Alam can be reached on 571-272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Michael Y Won

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Y Won'.

December 7, 2004


HOSAIN ALAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER